

American Legion Post 330 Newsletter

Hayfield, Minnesota

November/December 2023

A Message from the Legion Commander, Vince Reynolds Hayfieldmnlegion.org

It has been an exciting couple of months around here and with all the changes we have gone through, the state of Rothie Post 330 is strong! Our **Membership Dinner**, in September, was a huge success. We had 111 members come in & enjoy a delicious Windsor Chop Dinner.

Our membership numbers are looking very good! To date, we are only waiting for 20 active members to renew for 2024. Additionally, we have added/transferred in four new members so far this year. Our goal is to have all the **membership renewals** done by December. If you have already renewed, **Thank You!** If you have not yet renewed, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Since reopening, we have continued to make improvements as funds allow. The new A/C and heating unit, in the kitchen, was just installed and has made a world of difference! **Thank You** to the **Auxiliary** for purchasing that. We are currently working on some updates to the restrooms and will be replacing the exhaust hood fan to create better air flow and take care of a leak. The fan is on order and should be installed soon. Looking ahead, we need to look at some issues in the basement and upstairs. My intention is to keep moving forward with maintenance and repairs that need to be done to keep our building going strong.

We have a very busy November coming up with **Veteran's Day, Post Everlasting, Turkey Bingo and SAL's Liver & Onions Dinner.**

The **Legion & the Village Pub** are sponsoring a "free" **Burger Basket for all Veterans on Veteran's Day, Saturday, November 11th.** This is available to all Veterans, members or not.

Thank You to our entire Legion family for your continued support in keeping Rothie Post 330 moving forward. *****

A Message from the SAL Commander, Matt Nelson HayfieldMNSAL.com

We had our **1st annual Golf Outing** in August and it was a big success!

We have scheduled our annual "**All You Can Eat**" **Liver & Onions Dinner, with Meatball Alternative**, for **Saturday, November 4th** at the Legion. Serving will be from 3:30 – 7:00 PM ... (Goodwill Donation).

We sponsored **Punt, Pass, and Kick** at Hayfield High School before the Homecoming Football Game. We had 70 participants.

We donated a grill to the **203 Foundation Auction.**

If you have not paid for your flag from this summer's "**Fly the Flag**" **Project**, please do so as soon as possible. Send your \$25 to: Jim Burmeister – PO Box 63 – Hayfield, MN 55940. Thank you!

We welcome **new member, Weston Koski!!**

Check out our **SAL website** listed above.

Please consider joining the SAL (Sons of the American Legion). We can always use new voices and support. We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month at **7:00 PM** in the Legion Clubrooms. The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 1st.

**Post Everlasting Ceremony
Hayfield Legion Clubrooms
Sunday, November 12th ... 6PM**

A Message from the Auxiliary President, Andrea Reynolds

Stepping out my front door these mornings has made me sure that Fall has arrived! With it comes a full season of recognition and celebrations. October ends by participating in the **Halloween Carnival** with a **Cookie Walk** coordinated by Children and Youth Chair, Madison Edgar and Junior Activities Chair, Michelle Towey. The area children always enjoy the sweet treats they can win by playing. ALA Halloween coloring books will also be distributed to area Hayfield Elementary students for extra fun.

On **November 10th** we will celebrate the **104th Birthday of the American Legion Auxiliary**. -We look mighty good at 104! November 10th is also the 248th Birthday of the US Marine Corps. Be sure to wish a Happy Birthday to all the Devil Dogs you know!

We will recognize all Veterans of our armed forces on **Veteran's Day, November 11th**. We will be joining the Legionnaires for a program at the Hayfield School on **Friday, November 10th, at 8:30 AM**. Also, we will be giving gifts to Veterans residing at Field Crest Care Center, to **"thank"** them for their service to our country. Please make a special point to **"Thank" our Veterans** on that day.

On **Sunday, November 12th, at 6:00 PM** in the Legion Clubroom, we will honor Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members who have died the past year with a ceremony marking their passage from active membership to **Post Everlasting**.

Mark your calendars for **Turkey Bingo** on Monday, **November 13th** starting at **6:00 PM** in the Legion Clubrooms. Come out for **25 cent Bingo** and a chance to win a turkey, ham, herring, or pie for your Thanksgiving!

During the week of **November 13-17**, we celebrate **American Education Week**, and our Education Chair, Lori Kindschy, will be busy honoring our local education staff and their important work in educating our area youth.

Put your jingle bells on and join us for **25 cent Family Bingo on December 2nd** from **3:30-5:30 PM** as you build your **Hayfield Holiday Fest** traditions!

Our annual **Auxiliary Holiday Party** will be on **December 12th at 7:00 PM** at the Legin Clubroom, and we look forward to a night of camaraderie and laughter. Please bring with you a wrapped Christmas themed **gift** (less than \$5) to exchange, a **treat** to share, and an **item** to **donate** to the Hayfield Community Food Pantry. Highly needed items

include: salad dressing, mayo/Miracle Whip, BBQ Sauce, cake/muffin/brownie mixes, brown and powdered sugar, pudding/ jello, baking soda/powder, spices, snacks, canned salmon, Spam, canned beans, canned fruits and vegetables, jello, alfredo sauce, ramen noodles, and juice.

As you prepare to celebrate the holidays this year, please remember those who are serving abroad and show you are thinking about them by being a part of R.E.D. (**Remember Everyone Deployed**) Friday, which was created to remind people of our heroes overseas and show that they are in our thoughts throughout the year. Participating is easy...

-Just wear **RED** on Fridays and tell your friends why. Let's get the word out and lead by example. **Wear RED on Fridays!**

Wishing you a warm and wonderful holiday season!

A Message from the Legion Chaplain, Frank Moon

Listed below are the Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and SAL members that are known to have passed away since the last Newsletter:

- Lowell Bakkedah
- James (Jimmy) Gronseth
- Marilyn Kroll
- Milward Simonson

We also performed Military Rites for Robert Bowman (a non-member). Our sincere sympathy to their families & friends.

A Message from the Auxiliary Membership Chairperson, Marcia Bungum

Thank you to all the Auxiliary members who have paid their membership dues for 2024.

Let's try to get 100% paid up members by the end of December! You can pay your dues by sending a \$35 check to: Marcia Bungum - 27491 State Hwy 30 - Hayfield, MN 55940 **OR** by paying online by going to: **www.mnala.org** Thank you!

Hayfield American Legion Post 330
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The Monthly Legion & Auxiliary Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Légion Clubrooms ... Next Meetings are scheduled for:
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 5th.
Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Nov. 4th.

The Monthly SAL Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Legion Clubrooms ... Next meetings are scheduled for:
Wednesday, November 1, 2023
Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Stephen Dorenkemper Nov. Veteran of the Month

Stephen Dorenkemper graduated from Preston High School in 1968, and that summer he worked for Libby Canning Company in Rochester. His draft notice arrived in October and he enlisted in the U S Navy for four years!

Dorenkemper completed his ten weeks of Boot Camp at San Diego. Following a two-week leave back home to Preston, he was assigned to Boiler Tech School at the Great Lakes Training Center near Chicago for three months of training on high pressure steam boilers. He was promoted to "Fireman" after completing his schooling.

Stephen was assigned to the USS Hector (AR-7) with a home port of Long Beach, CA. However, she was servicing other ships at Subic Bay, in the Philippines at the time. To meet her, he flew via Travis AFB to Hawaii, then Guam, Clark AFB and then bussed to Subic Bay. Her home port overseas was Sasebo, Japan.

Stephen was assigned to the #1 boiler room where the boiler produced 400 pounds of pressure. Since they were a repair ship they had the capabilities for testing and repair using their foundry, machine shop, carpentry, drafting, etc. They provided service to a "nest" of nine individual ships while at Vung Tau, Vietnam.

Dorenkemper says there were 20 different divisions on the 600-man USS Hector, and he was assigned to the "B" division. They each had their own specialties and worked as part of the team to keep the ships they served operating at top efficiency.

Stephen made three trips back to Long Beach, and took leave time to return home to Preston to visit his folks. He recalls the only time he got sea sick was when they were caught in a typhoon!

While overseas, they made numerous Ports of Call at Hong Kong, Taiwan, Da Nang, and Vung Tau, Vietnam.

He was released from active duty as an E-4 in 1972 and served in the Naval Reserves until 1991, attending monthly training sessions at La Crosse, WI. Dorenkemper left the service with a rank of E-6. He worked with the Hatten boys at Great Plains Lumber in Brownsdale, and L.L. Hage in Austin while serving on the Brownsdale Fire Dept for 30 years. He is currently Sgt. of Arms and Honor Guard Commander for the Austin VFW Post #1216.

Stephen married Sherry Morgan of Austin in 1977 and they raised two children: Ryan and Lynn.

Trudy Redford Dec. Veteran of the Month

Trudy Redford graduated from Wells-Easton High School in 1966, and attended Morningside College at Sioux City, Iowa for one year. Trudy transferred to St. Mary's School of Nursing in Rochester and graduated as an RN in 1970. Redford was in the last class to graduate from St. Mary's.

Trudy went to Fort Smelling, was enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps on July 12, 1970 and inducted as a 2nd Lieutenant. She reported to Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio for her basic training, which entailed learning how to be an officer.

In early 1971, Redford was assigned to Darnall Army Hospital at Fort Hood, TX, to work in the Labor and Delivery department. They held the record over all military hospitals for the number of babies born in a year, with the exception of Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu! They were literally doubling up the babies in the isolettes! It was at this time, the 1st Cavalry Division replaced the 1st Armored Division at Fort Hood. It was a thrill for Trudy to see General William Westmoreland at that ceremony!

Trudy also remembers meeting Anna Mae Hays, while stationed at Fort Hood. Ms Hays was the Chief Nurse for the Army Nurse Corps and the first female Brigadier General in military history!

Redford's next assignment was at Fort Bragg, North Carolina and became a Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner. She was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1972.

Redford was transferred to Fort McClellan near Anniston, Alabama, as an instructor in women's health for a portion of WAC basic training. She also worked in the out-patient OB/GYN clinic. She was promoted to Captain in 1974.

Trudy resigned her commission July 5, 1974 having completed her enlistment, plus two years. She continued to work for the government in numerous capacities in the Indian Health Service in Anchorage, Alaska, Gallup, NM, Santa Fe NM, and Sitka, Alaska. Redford retired as a 20-year Civil Servant in 2008.

Trudy is a "Paid Up For Life" member of the American Legion, and has been a member of Rothie Post #330 for 19 years!